Units in unorganized and informal sector

†3228. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had asked the National Commission constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Arjun Sengupta for the development of units in unorganized and informal sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is being considered to extend the tenure of the Commission and if so, the time being fixed?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The terms of reference of the National Commission of Enterprises in the Unorganised/Informal Sector include, *inter alia*, the following:

(i) Identify constrainst faced by small enterprises with regard to freedom of carrying out the enterprise, access to raw materials, finance, skills entrepreneurship development, infrastructure, technlogy and markets and suggest measures to provide institutional support and linkages to facilitate easy access to them.

(ii) Suggest the legal and policy environment that should govern the informal/unorganized sector for growth, employment, exports and promotion.

(iii) Identify innovative legal and financing instruments to promote the growth of the informal sector.

(iv) Review Indian labour laws, consistent with laboru rights and with the requirements of expanding growth of industry and services particularly in the informal sector and improving productivity and competitiveness.

(c) The tenure of the National Commission on enterprises in the Unorganised/Informal Sector has been extended to three years with effect from 20th September, 2004.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.